

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of reducing inflammation in kidney of a subject, comprising delivering to the kidney of the subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a gene encoding an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressant protein.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the gene encodes IL-1Ra, IL-4, IL-6, IL-10, IL-16, or TGF- $\beta$ 1.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the gene encodes IL-10.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the gene is inserted into a vector.
5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the vector is a virus.
6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the virus is an adenovirus or an adeno-associated virus or retrovirus.
7. The method according to claim 4, wherein the vector is a plasmid.
8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the gene is transfected into a population of cells *in vitro*, wherein the transfected population of cells is administered to the subject.
9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the gene encodes IL-1Ra, IL-4, IL-6, IL-10, IL-16, or TGF- $\beta$ 1.
10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the gene encodes IL-10.
11. A method of treating nephritis comprising delivering to the kidney of the subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a gene encoding an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressant protein.
12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the nephritis is glomerulopathy.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the glomerulopathy is glomerulosclerosis.
14. A method of preventing nephritis in a patient predisposed to such a condition, comprising delivering to the kidney of the subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a gene encoding an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressant protein.
15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the nephritis is glomerulosclerosis.
16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the gene encodes IL-1Ra, IL-4, IL-6, IL-10, IL-16, or TGF- $\beta$ 1.
17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the gene encodes IL-10.
18. A method of reducing excretion of polypeptides in urine of a subject suffering from a renal disorder comprising delivering to the kidney of the subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a gene encoding an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressant protein.
19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the gene encodes IL-1Ra, IL-4, IL-6, IL-10, IL-16, or TGF- $\beta$ 1.
20. The method according to claim 19, wherein the gene encodes IL-10.